whether by importing any Cattle from *Flanders*, I know not; for ſurely there is too wide a Tract of Sea for any infectious *Miaſmata* to be wafted over to that Part of the Country by the Winds! This is certain, the *Viſcera* concerned in Reſpiration are the Parts chiefly affected. Its Spreading here in *England* has been progreſſive; and therefore one may reaſonably think it is not conſtitutionary in the Air, for then it ought to be univerſal every-where; but that it is contagious, and propagated by infected Cows being mixed with well Cows: Therefore the not buying in Calves, or ſtrange Beaſts, but every Farmer keeping his Herd by itſelf, muſt be a great means of preventing the Propagation of it: And houſing the Cows a-nights may be a proper Preſervative againſt it.

XIV. *Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Arderon *to Mr.* Baker, *F. R. S. giving an Account of the Weaver's* Alarm, *vulgò* LARUM.

Read Dec. 12. 1745.

NOTHING is more true, than that Neceſſity is the Mother of Invention; among the many Inſtances of which, the uſeful Contrivance I am going to deſcribe may ſerve as one remarkable Example.

This little *Apparatus* goes commonly by the Name of the Weaver's *Larum*, from its being chiefly or originally made uſe of by Perſons employed in that Trade, who have frequently Occaſion to get up very early to their Work: And, as I am informed,

Norwich may boaſt of its firſt Appearance there, though I am unable to learn the Inventor's Name. However, the Simplicity of the Thing itſelf, and the ſingular Service it may be of to Multitudes of People, renders it (I believe you'll think) not undeſerving Notice.

The Materials neceſſary to compoſe this little Time-Piece or Monitor, are nothing more than a ſmall Candle, of fourteen or fifteen Inches in Length, a Piece of Thread or Packthread, a graduated Board, and a common Stone, or any other ponderous Body: But the Drawing added hereto (TAB. I. *Fig.* 3.) will fully explain my Meaning.

A Repreſents a Board, which hangs commonly againſt a Wall, divided and figured according to the Size of the Candle made uſe of *.

B, A little Shelf to place the Candle on.

CC, A Thread or Packthread, tied faſt at *D*, and hanging over a Pulley at *E*, whereto a Weight is hung at *F*.

By ſliding the Spring of the Candleſtick *G*, up or down, as Occaſion requires, the Flame of the Candle is raiſed as many Hours above the Thread as the Perſon that adjuſts it deſigns to lie before he is called up. At the deſired Hour the Candle burns the Thread in two, the Weight falls, and, by its Noiſe, ſeldom fails to wake the Perſon.

But

* For want of ſuch a Board a common Ruler is frequently uſed, to ſet the Number of Hours between the Flame of the Candle and the Thread.

But if the Man who makes uſe of this Contrivance happens to be of a more than commonly ſleepy Diſpoſition, in ſuch Caſe another Thread is tied to that Part of the Line *CC* which is next the Pulley, and its other End is twiſted round the Thumb or Wriſt of the ſleepy Perſon, whereby, when the Candle burns the Line, and the Weight falls, he receives ſuch a ſudden Pull as can hardly fail to wake him, as the Drawing will eaſily explain.

If the Line for a few Inches on each Side the Candle be Wire with a ſhort Thread only juſt in the Middle where the Candle is placed, there can be no Danger of doing Miſchief by the Fire's running along the Line.

And thus may the pooreſt Mechanic provide himſelf with an uſeful Servant at a very ſmall Expence.

Dec. 10. 1745.

XV. *An Account of ſome* human Bones *incruſted with Stone, now in the* Villa Ludoviſia *at* Rome: *communicated to the* Royal Society *by the* Preſident, *with a Drawing of the ſame.*

Read Dec. 12. 1745. SOMETHING like the Body of a petrified Man being mentioned by ſeveral Authors, as preſerved in the *Villa Ludoviſia* at *Rome*, and the ſame having been lately referred to in a Diſcourſe read before this *Society*; I thought, that a Drawing of that Curioſity, which I procured at *Rome* ſome Years ſince, might, poſſibly deſerve the

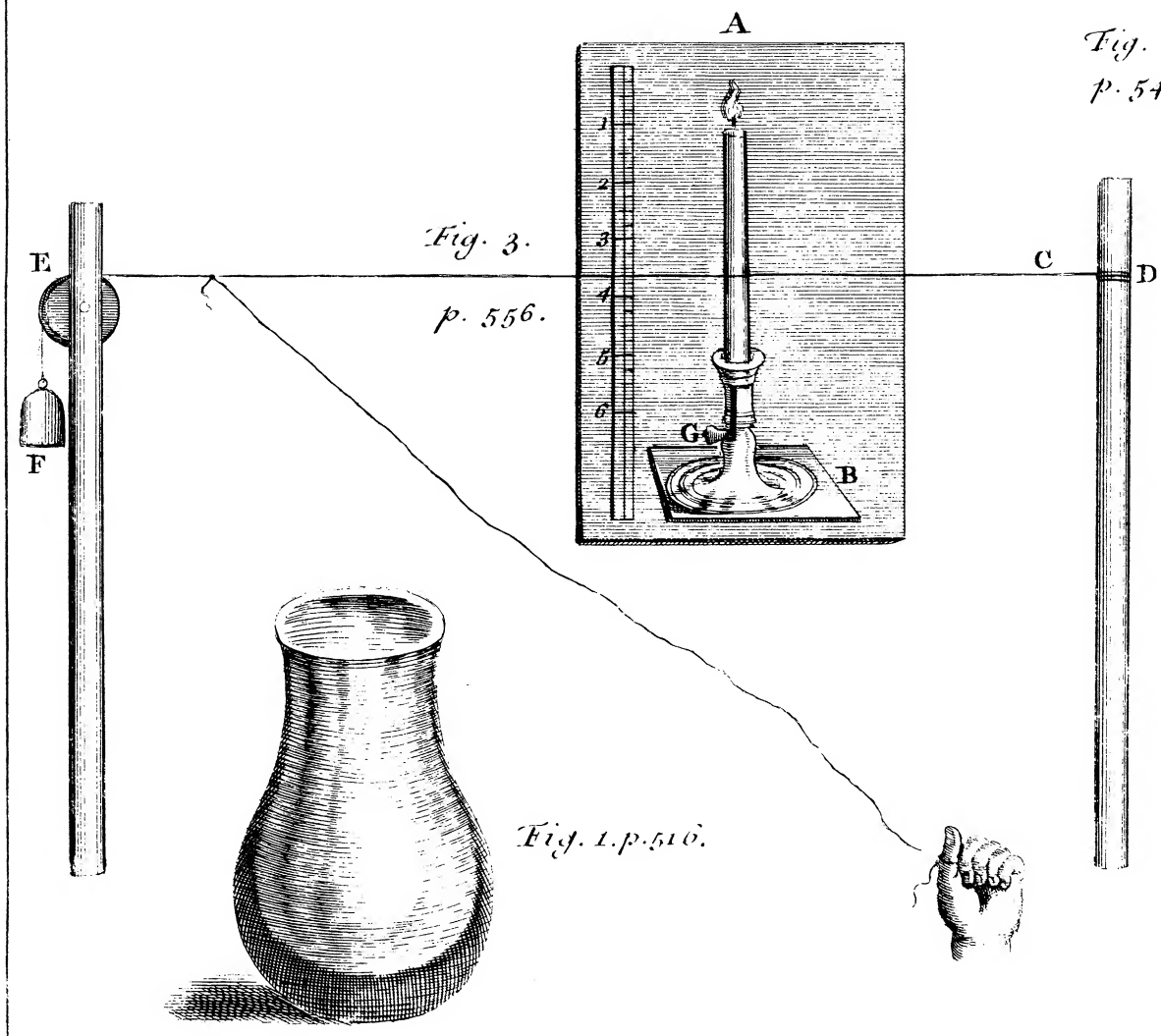
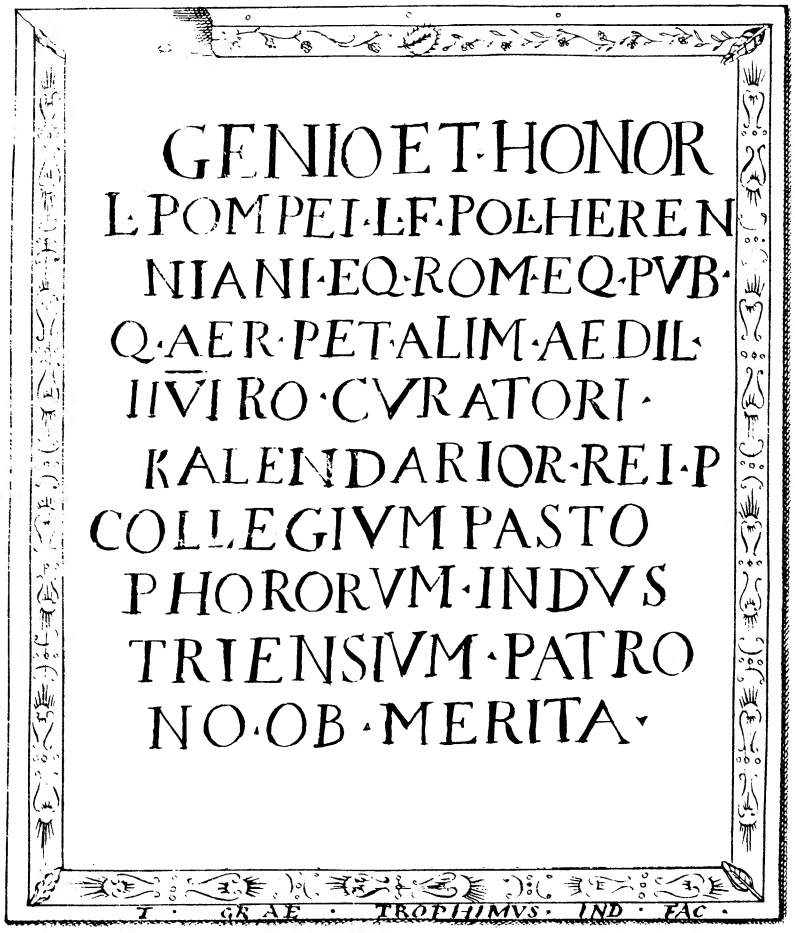


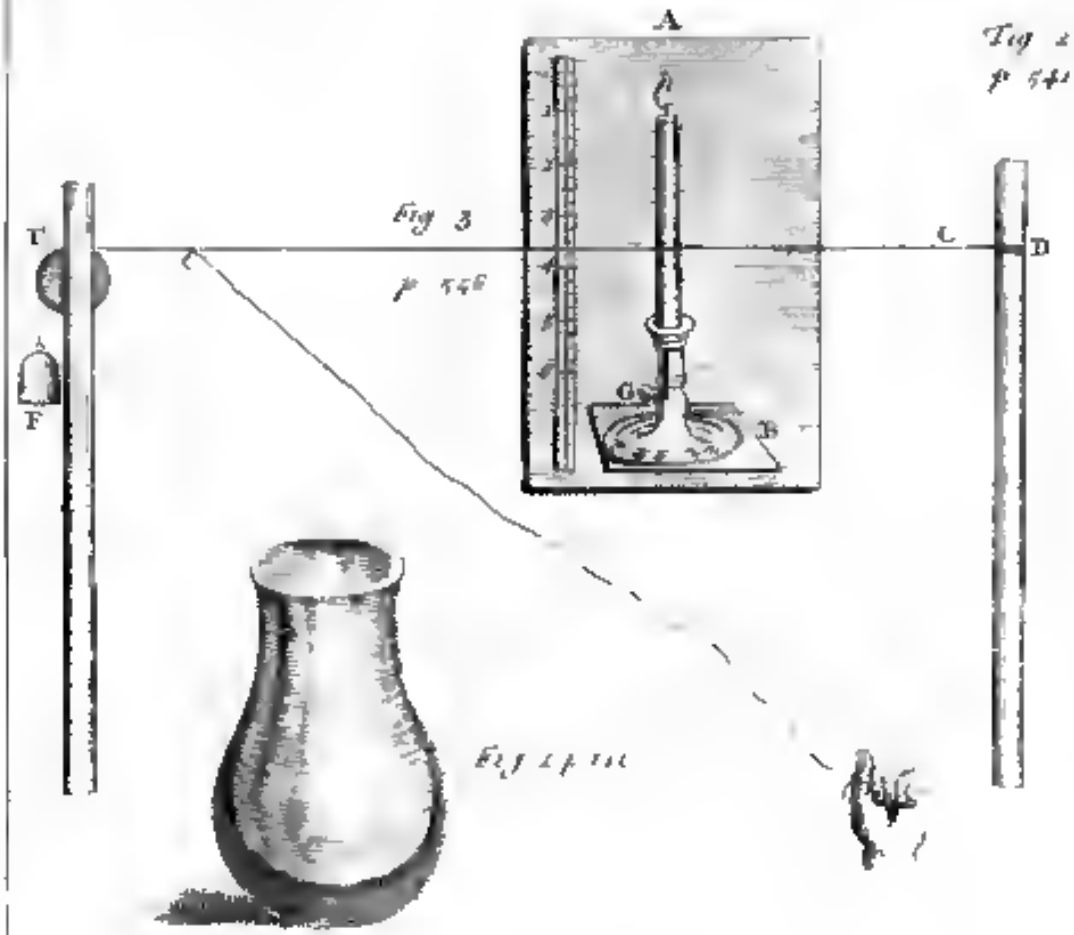
Fig. 2. p. 541.

Fig. 3. p. 556.

Fig. 1. p. 516.



J. Mynde Sculp.



GENIO ET HONOR
I POMPEII LENTVLI POLLIONIS
NIANI EQ. ROMANI EQ. PVB.
QVAESTORIS PRAETORIS AEDIL.
IIVIRO CVRATORI
KALENDARIORVM REI P.
COLLEGIVM PASTO
PHORORVM INDVS
TRIENSIVM PATRO
NO OB MERITA